United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Michigan Field Office
Cooperating with Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development
Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service

Michigan Crop Weather

MI-CW3311 August 15, 2011

Comfortable Relief

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ended August 14, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 0.13 inches to 0.52 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 1.04 to 1.95 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures were 1 to 2 degrees above normal in the Upper Peninsula and ranged from 1 degree below to 1 degree above normal in the Lower Peninsula. Nice seasonal temperatures coupled with a fair amount of rainfall had crops looking good. "Enough rain finally hit most of the growing area to do some good," said a reporter from Tuscola County. Nighttime temperatures fell into the mid 50's in southern counties; a drop in temperatures from recent weeks. Humid conditions subsided bringing a much more enjoyable week for fieldwork.

Field Crops

Corn was at variable growth stages, with advanced fields finished pollinating and late fields approaching VT. Western bean cutworm moth flight was on the decline. Gray leaf spot was reported in some seed corn fields. **Soybeans** were in the R3 to R4 in the southeast Lower Peninsula and R4 to R5 in the southwest Lower Peninsula. Japanese beetles were the predominant leaf feeders, with grasshoppers and bean leaf beetles also present. Aphids were still prevalent in the western Lower Peninsula. Insect levels were not at economically damaging thresholds in most fields. **Alfalfa** growth recovered with the recent rain fall. Third cutting will depend upon the forecast. Yields were reported as good in central Michigan. Potato leafhoppers remained the main insect pest and caused yellowing, affecting growth, yield and quality. **Oat** and **barley** harvest progressed as weather allowed. Excessive heat during grain fill may have contributed to lower yields. **Dry beans** progressed nicely in central Michigan, and were setting pods. White mold and western bean cutworm were still a concern. **Sugarbeets** benefitted greatly from rain.

Fruit

The **tart cherry** harvest approached completion in the northwest. The quality has been high. The harvest of **blueberries** continued. Soft fruit has been a problem due to the heat and rain delays. Labor shortages have forced some growers to mechanically harvest fruit intended to be hand-picked. **Apples** were 2.5 to 2.75 inches in the south. The harvest dates for major varieties will likely be about five days later than predicted earlier. Pristine apples were picked. Stanley **plums** were coloring. Redhaven **peach** harvest began—about 5 days later than anticipated. **Pears** were 2 to 2.5 inches in the south. Grape berry moth flight continued in **grape** vineyards.

Vegetables

Seasonably warm temperatures and moderate rainfall were prevalent across the State last week. In Southwest Michigan, **cantaloupe** harvest was underway and **watermelon** harvest was expected to begin soon. Bacterial spot was observed in some **pepper** and **tomato** plantings. **Potato** harvest began. Chip potato harvest began last week in Central Michigan. In eastern counties, **carrot** harvest started. **Sweet corn** harvest continued; yields looked good. In West Central Michigan **celery** harvest continued. Some early blight was observed. **Lettuce** and **radish** yields varied by location. Vine crops were maturing quickly. Some downy mildew was evident in **cucumbers**. Growers were reporting lower **snap bean** yields in early plantings this year

Soil moisture for week ending 08/14/11

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
Topsoil	3	16	74	7
Subsoil	3	23	70	4

Crop condition for week ending 08/14/11

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
All Hay	1	8	24	49	18
Barley	0	8	37	43	12
Corn	3	9	23	49	16
Dry beans	7	10	24	42	17
Oats	0	6	29	55	10
Pasture	3	12	32	42	11
Soybeans	2	6	27	50	15

Crop progress for week ending 08/14/11

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*
All hay, second cutting	83	74	86	78
Barley, harvested	62	27	83	17
Blueberries, harvested	78	75	87	71
Corn, silked	96	90	100	95
Corn, dough	34	18	72	51
Dry beans, blooming	97	88	95	90
Dry beans, setting pods	84	39	83	71
Oats, turning yellow	96	94	100	98
Oats, harvested	56	9	93	69
Peaches, harvested	35	30	50	37
Soybeans, blooming	96	87	95	95
Soybeans, setting pods	67	48	85	77
Tart cherries, harvested	96	90	100	96
Winter wheat, harvested	96	90	100	73

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Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 08/14/11 [1]

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days [2]			Precipitation					
											Normal	
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2011	2010	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	81	48		1,544	1,707		0.23	1.38	2.25	12.85		
Marquette	80	49		1,487	1,670		0.19	1.28	1.86	13.54		
Stephenson	84	48		1,647	1,944		0.01	0.58	1.23	11.86		
Western UP	84	42	1	1,512	1,716	1,394	0.13	1.16	1.93	12.26	14.29	3.69
Cornell	81	52		1,538	1,858		0.44	1.11	1.73	12.00		
Sault St Marie	80	53		1,499	1,720		1.06	2.13	2.36	17.03		
Eastern UP	85	41	2	1,446	1,685	1,207	0.52	1.18	1.83	14.31	13.45	3.53
Beulah	81	56		1,811	2,016		0.48	2.39	3.30	19.55		
Lake City	82	47		1,737	1,919		1.18	3.01	4.14	18.24		
Old Mission	81	51		1,672	1,940		1.53	2.44	3.31	14.00		
Pellston	82	46		1,623	1,850		0.89	1.92	2.21	15.47		
Northwest	82	46	1	1,677	1,888	1,576	1.04	2.32	2.94	15.83	12.66	3.11
Alpena	82	52		1,630	1,873		2.20	2.97	3.92	19.09		
Houghton Lake	82	47		1,841	2,011		1.48	1.84	3.57	16.07		
Rogers City	82	54		1,505	1,761		1.05	1.22	1.46	13.58		
Northeast	83	47	1	1,684	1,915	1,527	1.56	2.12	3.07	16.43	12.77	3.12
Fremont	83	49		1,954	2,168		0.27	0.51	1.87	15.67		
Hart	81	49		1,842	2,070		1.09	1.61	2.84	14.24		
Muskegon	82	54		2,128	2,339		4.32	5.20	8.29	20.10		
West Central	83	49	1	1,916	2,158	1,723	1.65	2.45	3.97	17.06	12.74	3.60
Alma	80	53		1,946	2,235		2.81	4.66	8.07	22.60		
Big Rapids	80	51		1,840	2,090		1.79	8.02	8.79	25.33		
Central	80	49	0	1,914	2,155	1,794	1.95	4.90	6.99	19.94	13.70	3.64
Bad Axe	81	53		1,860	2,103		0.74	2.03	5.14	19.65		
Pigeon	81	54		1,855	2,083		1.95	3.02	4.23	16.32		
Saginaw	81	53		2,081	2,337		1.52	2.18	4.02	18.62		
Standish	82	50		1,783	2,039		3.33	4.77	5.90	20.96		
East Central	82	50	0	1,853	2,138	1,781	1.76	2.72	4.80	19.12	12.47	2.93
Fennville	81	53		1,979	2,213		0.54	1.32	5.43	19.84		
Grand Rapids	81	55		2,222	2,449		1.71	3.16	8.83	25.45		
Holland	80	53		2,949	2,408		1.27	5.99	10.03	27.25		
South Bend, IN	86	59		2,336	2,476		0.62	1.47	2.49	24.11		
Watervliet	81	53		2,140	2,358		0.96	2.16	5.82	21.59		
Southwest	86	50	-1	2,178	2,349	1,935	1.11	2.38	5.72	22.24	14.41	3.18
Belding	81	50		1,953	2,172		3.06	3.74	7.33	21.23		
Coldwater	84	50		2,192	2,385		0.24	1.13	3.42	15.51		
Lansing	81	54		2,114	2,372		1.01	1.82	5.87	21.13		
South Central	84	50	-1	2,052	2,289	1,914	1.16	2.33	6.40	21.11	14.28	3.36
Detroit	85	57		2,343	2,547		0.87	1.63	7.11	21.21		
Flint	83	52		2,160	2,344		0.71	1.16	7.34	23.21		
Romeo	82	53		2,046	2,256		0.91	2.35	3.38	18.10		
Tipton	84	55		2,155	2,313		1.08	1.59	4.76	19.49		
Toledo, OH	83	54		2,179	2,557		1.07	1.82	4.86	17.96		
Southeast	86	48	0	2,141	2,390	1,898	1.15	1.97	5.31	18.58	13.82	3.12

[1] Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

[2] Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.